

PRESS RELEASE

Adopt-A-Beach volunteers shatter expectations for Fall Cleanup

11,665 pick up 207 tons of trash from Texas beaches; Galveston sets record

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AUSTIN —

The results for Saturday's 27th annual Fall Adopt-A-Beach Cleanup by the Texas General Land Office are in, and the number of volunteers exceeded all expectations.

On Galveston Island, an all-time record 4,748 volunteers hit the beaches, hauling off an astounding 119 tons of trash that could have otherwise killed or maimed dolphins, turtles, birds or other sea creatures. Statewide, the total number of volunteers who pitched in and helped out was 11,665. Together, they removed a total of 207 tons of marine debris.

"The push to spread the word on Adopt-A-Beach via social media is really paying off," Texas Land Commissioner Jerry Patterson said. "As more and more people 'like' us on Facebook and share the message with their friends on Twitter, more and more volunteers show up on the beach."

Since 1986, more than 458,000 Adopt-A-Beach volunteers have cleaned more than 8,700 tons of trash from Texas beaches.

Cigarette butts, beer cans and plastic bags are among the most common items found. But with each cleanup, plenty of odd and unusual items inevitably are reported. On Saturday, the list of weird stuff found on Texas beaches included a mannequin, a set of dentures, camping tents, the sail from a sailboat, swim suits, syringes and a toilet seat.

"None of this trash belongs on the beach — every day it kills and injures dolphins, turtles, pelicans and other wildlife that live there," Patterson said. "Trashing Texas beaches isn't cool."

Adopt-A-Beach volunteers record data on the trash they find to learn more about the causes of marine debris and to help mitigate pollution along Texas' 367 miles of coastline.

The next Adopt-A-Beach cleanup will be a special, four-wheel drive expedition on Padre Island National Seashore Saturday, November 2. Only eight teams of four will be allowed to sign up for this competitive event and spots are filling up quickly so register now if you are interested at www.texasadoptabeach.org.

The next coastwide cleanup will be the spring Adopt-A-Beach effort scheduled for Saturday, April 26, 2014.

The Texas General Land Office Adopt-A-Beach program is an all-volunteer effort to remove trash from Texas' shores. Coastal cleanups are held three times each year and the program's success is due to the hard work of volunteers, including local coordinators who work many unpaid hours publicizing the cleanups in coastal communities.

Our corporate sponsors and local media sponsors provide the necessary resources to help underwrite the costs associated with our annual events. The lead, statewide sponsors for the 27th Texas General Land Office Adopt-A-Beach Fall Cleanup was Shell Oil Company and Motiva Enterprises. Other statewide sponsors include: HNTB, Apache Corporation, Cameron International Corporation, Cheniere Energy, Flint Hills Resources, Halliburton, and the Ocean Conservancy.

Local news sponsors for the cleanup include:

Beaumont

KFDM-TV (CBS 6) and The CW Southeast Texas, Clear Channel Radio (KLVI-AM, KYKR-FM, KCOL-FM, KKMY-FM, KIOC-FM), and GuidryNews.com and News Gazette.

Houston

KXLN-TV (Univision 45), KFTH-TV (UniMás 67), CBS Radio (KKHH-FM, KHMx-FM, KILT-AM, KLOL-FM), and GuidryNews.com and News Gazette.

Victoria

KAVU-TV (ABC 25), KVCT-TV (FOX 19), KXTS-TV (CBS 41), KMOL-TV (NBC 17), KVTX-TV (Telemundo), and Town Square Media (KIXS-FM, KLUB-FM, KTXN-FM, KQVT-FM).

Corpus Christi

KRIS-TV (NBC 6), KZTV-TV (CBS 10), The CW South Texas, KORO-TV (Univision 28), KCRP-TV (UniMás 41), and Malkin Interactive Communications (KZFM-FM, KKBA-FM, KEYS-AM).

Rio Grande Valley

KGBT-TV (CBS 4), KNVO-TV (Univision 48), KTFV-TV (UniMás 32), and Entravision Radio (KVLV-FM, KFRQ-FM, KKPS-FM, KNVO-FM).

To learn more about items collected at the cleanup, and for information on the health of the Texas coast, visit the Adopt-A-Beach program website at www.texasadoptabeach.org, or contact the Texas General Land Office at 1-877-TXCOAST (1-877-892-6278). Keep up with all Adopt-A-Beach activities by joining us on Facebook, just search "Texas Adopt-A-Beach" to find our page on Facebook and click "like." Follow us on Twitter - @TXadoptabeach.

County	Cleanup Site	Miles Cleaned	Volunteers	Tons Collected (lbs)	
Aransas	Rockport Beach				
	(Bay)	4.8	26	0.36	(713)
	County Total	4.8	26	0.36	(713)
Brazoria	Surfside	14	1,200	13.35	(26,700)
	Quintana, Bryan				
	Beach	2	174	2.32	(4,650)
	County Total	16	1,374	15.67	(31,350)

Calhoun	Port Lavaca, Magnolia Beach (Bay)	6	130	1.11	(2,225)
	Port O' Connor, King Fisher Beach (Bay)	6.5	19	0.47	(950)
	County Total	12.5	149	1.58	(3,175)
Cameron	South Padre Island Cameron County Parks	6	1,526	7.29	(14,575)
	South Padre Island City Beaches	4	155	0.87	(1,750)
	Boca Chica	6	635	4.88	(9,760)
	County Total	16	2,316	13.04	(26,085)
Chambers	Chambers County	1	20	0.37	(750)
	County Total	1	20	0.37	(750)
Galveston	Bolivar Peninsula	20	348	3.36	(6,725)
	Galveston Island	32	4,748	118.7	(237,400)
	John M. O' Quinn 1-45 Estuarial Corridor (Bay)	8	61	5.62	(11,250)
	County Total	60	5,157	127.7	(255,375)
Harris	Horsepen Bayou (Bay)	5	93	0.09	(190)
	County Total	5	93	0.09	(190)
Jefferson	McFaddin Beach	3	550	13.75	(27,500)
	Sea Rim State Park	2	137	3.14	(6,275)
	County Total	5	687	16.89	(33,775)
Kleberg and Nueces	Baffin Bay (Bay)	2	57	0.34	(675)
	Padre Island National Seashore	6	252	7.14	(14,275)
	Port Aransas & St. Jo Island	7.8	277	3.65	(7,300)
	Mustang Island State Park	4	66	1.94	(3,875)
	Corpus Christi Beach (Bay)	9	215	3.32	(6,650)
	Cole Park (Bay)	3	125	0.41	(825)
	North Padre Island	9	335	4.19	(8,375)
	Aransas Pass (Bay)	1	47	0.75	(1,500)
	County Total	41.8	1,374	21.74	(43,475)
	Sargent Beach	7	115	3.55	(7,112)
Matagorda					

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	Beach	5	245	4.8	(9,600)
	Palacios (Bay)	1.5	30	0.27	(550)
	County Total	13.5	390	8.62	(17,262)
Refugio	Austwell Pier				
	(Bay)	1	38	0.25	(500)
	County Total	1	38	0.25	(500)
San Patricio	Portland, Sunset				
	Lake Park (Bay)	2	41	0.67	(1,350)
	County Total	2	41	0.67	(1,350)
Total	Fall 2013	178.6	11,665	207	(414,000)
	Total Bay Miles	49.8			
	Total Beach	128.8			
	Miles				

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